

Appl No. 09/778,682
Amdt Dated March 14, 2006
Reply To Office Action Of December 14, 2005

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace the previously filed claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An imaging system comprising:
a panoramic visual images recording device comprising a viewing direction selectable by a user;
a panoramic visual images display device;
an associated directional sound capturing device capable of capturing sound in response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the panoramic visual images recording device and positionable remotely from the panoramic visual images recording device; and
an associated directional sound playback device.
2. (Original) The imaging system of Claim 1, wherein the display device displays a selected portion of the panoramic visual images.
3. (Original) The imaging system of Claim 2, wherein the selected portion of the panoramic visual images comprises a field of view of from about 1° to about 60°.
4. (Original) The imaging system of Claim 2, wherein the directional sound playback device provides sound associated with the selected portion of the panoramic visual images.
5. (Currently Amended) An imaging system comprising:
a panoramic visual images recording device comprising a viewing direction selectable by a user capable of performing a zoom function;
an associated directional sound capturing device capable of capturing sound in response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the panoramic visual images recording device; and
means for controlling sound from the sound capturing device according to the zoom function.

Appl. No. 09/778,682
Amdt. Dated March 14, 2006
Reply To Office Action Of December 14, 2005

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

6. (Previously Presented) The imaging system of Claim 5, wherein the means for controlling the sound from the sound capturing device includes means for controlling the sound balance.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method of providing images comprising:
providing panoramic visual images from a panoramic visual images recording device corresponding to a viewing direction selectable by a user; and
providing directional sound from a directional sound capturing device in response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the panoramic visual images recording device and positionable remotely from the panoramic visual images recording device associated with the panoramic visual images.

10. (Currently Amended) An image recording system comprising:
a panoramic visual images recording device comprising a viewing direction selectable by a user, and
an associated directional sound capturing device capable of capturing sound in response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the panoramic visual images recording device and positionable remotely from the panoramic visual images recording device.

11. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 10, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 60° to 360°.

12. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 10, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 90° to 360°.

13. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 10, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 180° to 360°.

14. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 10, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device comprises a camera.

Appl. No. 09/778,682
Amdt. Dated March 14, 2006
Reply To Office Action Of December 14, 2005

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

15. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 10, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device comprises a video camera.

16. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 10, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device comprises a panoramic mirror.

17. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 10, wherein the sound capturing device comprises at least two microphones.

18. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 17, wherein the microphones are substantially omni-directional.

19. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 17, wherein the microphones are substantially uni-directional.

20. (Currently Amended) An image recording system comprising:
means for capturing panoramic visual images comprising a viewing direction selectable by a user; and
means for capturing directional sound in response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the means for capturing panoramic visual images positionable remotely from the means for capturing panoramic visual images.

21. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 20, wherein the panoramic visual images comprise a field of view of from about 60° to 360°.

22. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 20, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 60° to 90°.

23. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 20, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 60° to 180°.

24. (Original) The image recording system of Claim 20, wherein the means for capturing directional sound comprises at least two microphones.

Appl. No. 09/778,682
Amdt. Dated March 14, 2006
Reply To Office Action Of December 14, 2005

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

25. (Currently Amended) A method of recording images comprising:
capturing panoramic visual images from a panoramic visual images
recording device comprising a viewing direction selectable by a user; and
capturing directional sound from a directional sound capturing device in
response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the panoramic visual images
recording device and positionable remotely from the panoramic visual images recording device.

26. (Currently Amended) An image recording and playback system
comprising:
a panoramic visual images recording device comprising a viewing
direction selectable by a user;
an associated directional sound capturing device capable of capturing
sound in response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the panoramic visual
images recording device and positionable remotely from the panoramic visual images recording
device;

a panoramic visual images display device; and
an associated directional sound playback.

27. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26,
wherein the display device displays a selected portion of the panoramic visual images.

28. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 27,
wherein the selected portion of the panoramic visual images comprises a field of view of from
about 1° to about 60°.

29. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 27,
wherein the directional sound playback device provides sound associated with the selected
portion of the panoramic visual images.

30. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26,
wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 60°
to 360°.

Appl. No. 09/778,682
Amdt. Dated March 14, 2006
Reply To Office Action Of December 14, 2005

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

31. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 90° to 360°.

32. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device records a field of view of from about 180° to 360°.

33. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device comprises a camera.

34. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device comprises a video camera.

35. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26, wherein the panoramic visual images recording device comprises a panoramic mirror.

36. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 26, wherein the sound capturing device comprises at least two microphones.

37. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 36, wherein the microphones are substantially omni-directional.

38. (Original) The image recording and playback system of Claim 36, wherein the microphones are substantially uni-directional.

39. (Currently Amended) An image recording and playback system comprising:

means for capturing panoramic visual images comprising a viewing direction selectable by a user;

means for capturing directional sound in response responsive to ~~[[a]]~~ the selected viewing direction of the means for capturing panoramic visual images positionable remotely from the means for capturing panoramic visual images;

means for displaying a portion of the panoramic visual images; and

means for providing directional sound associated with the portion of the panoramic visual images.

Appl. No. 09/778,682
Amdt. Dated March 14, 2006
Reply To Office Action Of December 14, 2005

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

40. (Currently Amended) A method of recording and providing images comprising:
capturing panoramic visual images from a panoramic visual images recording device comprising a viewing direction selectable by a user;
capturing directional sound from a directional sound capturing device in response responsive to [[a]] the selected viewing direction of the panoramic visual images recording device positionable remotely from the panoramic visual images recording device;
displaying a portion of the panoramic visual images; and
providing directional sound associated with the portion of the panoramic visual images.

41. (Previously Presented) The imaging system of Claim 5, wherein the means for controlling the sound from the sound capturing device includes means for controlling the loudness of the sound.

42. (Previously Presented) The imaging system of Claim 5, further comprising a panoramic visual images recording device and an associated directional sound capturing device, wherein the directional sound capturing device is positionable remotely from the panoramic visual images recording device.